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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (currently amended) A method, for use in a client system, for downloading from a file server a file and an associated virus-free certificate certifying that the file is virus-free, comprising the steps of:
- sending a request to a file server for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download from said file server, said request comprising one or a plurality of requirements for said virus-free certificate;
- determining whether a virus-free certificate satisfies said virus-free certificate requirements; and if no certificate satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements:
 - receiving from the file server a list of available virus-free certificates, if a certificate is accepted by the client system;
 - selecting from the list an available virus-free certificate for the file, and
 - downloading the file and the selected virus-free certificate; otherwise,
- downloading the file and the associated virus-free certificate, said virus-free certificate comprising a file signature for certifying that the file is declared virus-free by a virus-free certificate authority.
- 2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the one or plurality of virus-free certificate requirements comprise:
- a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that must have been executed on the file to download.

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- 3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must belong.
- 4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a virus-free certificate type; and
- a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a
 virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.
- 5. (canceled)
- 6. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 comprising the further steps of:

if no certificate is accepted by the client system and if the virus-free certificate request does not comprise a virus-free certificate authority proxy:

- downloading the file without virus-free certificate; and
- requesting a virus-free certificate to a default virus-free certificate authority.
- 7. (previously presented) A client system, for carrying out the method according to claim
 1.
- 8. (canceled)
- 9. (currently amended) A method, for use in a file server, for downloading to client system a file and an associated virus-free certificate certifying that the file is virus-free, comprising the steps of:
- receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client system, said request comprising one or a plurality

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of requirements for said virus-free certificate;

- determining whether a virus-free certificate is requested for the file; and <u>if no virus-free certificate is requested for the file</u>
- downloading the file without associated virus-free certificate; otherwise
- downloading the file and the associated virus-free certificate, said virus-free certificate comprising a file signature for certifying that the file is declared virus-free by a virus-free certificate authority.
- 10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the step of determining whether said virus-free certificate is requested for the file comprises:
- determining whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free
 certificate requirements comprised in the request; and
 if a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements
 comprised in the request:
- downloading the file and the associated virus-free certificate.

11. (canceled)

- 12. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the step of determining whether said virus-free certificate is requested for the file comprises:
- determining whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request; and

if no virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request:

- sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file.
- 13. (previously presented) The method according to claim 12 wherein the step of sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file comprises the further steps of:
- receiving a reply from the client system indicating whether an available virus-free certificate is accepted or not;

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If an available virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

downloading the file and the accepted virus-free certificate;

If no virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

 determining whether a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request; and

If a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request:

- requesting to this virus-free certificate authority proxy a virus-free certificate for the file.
- 14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the one or plurality of virus-free certificate requirements comprise:
- a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that must have been executed on the file to download.
- 15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must belong.
- 16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a virus-free certificate type; and
- a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.
- 17. (previously presented) A system, more particularly a file server system, for carrying out the method according to claim 9.
- 18. (canceled)

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- 19. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must belong.
- 20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a virus-free certificate type; and
- a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a
 virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.
- 21. (canceled)
- 22. (currently amended) The method according to claim <u>20</u> [[21]] comprising the further steps of:

if no certificate is accepted by the client system and if the virus-free certificate request does not comprise a virus-free certificate authority proxy:

- downloading the file without virus-free certificate; and
- requesting a virus-free certificate to a default virus-free certificate authority.
- 23. (previously presented) A client system for carrying out the method according to claim 22.
- 24. (canceled)
- 25. (currently amended) The method according to claim 10 [[24]] wherein the step of receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client system, comprises the further steps of:
- determining whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request; and

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If no virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request:

- sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file.
- 26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 25 wherein the step of sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file comprises the further steps of:
- receiving a reply from the client system indicating whether an available virus-free certificate is accepted or not;

If an available virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

downloading the file and the accepted virus-free certificate;

If no virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

 determining whether a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request; and

If a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request:

- requesting to this virus-free certificate authority proxy a virus-free certificate for the file.
- 27. (previously presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein the one or plurality of virus-free certificate requirements comprise:
- a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that must have been executed on the file to download.
- 28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 27 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must belong.
- 29. (previously presented) The method according to claim 28 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a virus-free certificate type; and

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- a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a
 virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.
- 30. (previously presented) A file server system for carrying out the method according to claim 29.
- 31. (currently amended) A computer program product for downloading from a file server a file and an associated virus-free certificate certifying that the file is virus-free, said computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said computer readable program code comprising of steps:
- computer readable program code means for sending a request to a file server for a
 virus-free certificate associated with a file to download from said file server, said
 request comprising one or a plurality of requirements for said virus-free
 certificate;
- computer readable program code for determining whether a virus-free certificate
 satisfies said virus-free certificate requirements and receiving from the file server
 a list of available virus-free certificates if no certificate satisfies the virus-free
 certificate requirements;
- computer readable program code means for selecting from the list an available virus-free certificate for the file and downloading the file and the selected virus-free certificate, if a certificate is accepted by the client system; and
- computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the
 associated virus-free certificate, said virus-free certificate comprising a file
 signature for certifying that the file is declared virus-free by a virus-free
 certificate authority.

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- 32. (previously presented) A computer program product according to claim 31 wherein the one or plurality of virus-free certificate requirements comprise a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that must have been executed on the file to download.
- 33. (previously presented) A computer program product for downloading files as in claim 31 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must belong.
- 34. (previously presented) A computer program product for downloading files as in claim 31 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a virus-free certificate type; and
- a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.

35. (canceled)

- 36. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 31 further comprising:
- computer readable program code means for downloading the file without
 virus-free certificate and requesting a virus-free certificate to a default virus-free
 certificate authority, if no certificate is accepted by the client system and if the
 virus-free certificate request does not comprise a virus-free certificate authority
 proxy.

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37. (currently amended) A computer program product for downloading from a file server a file and an associated virus-free certificate certifying that the file is virus-free, said computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said computer readable program code comprising:

- computer readable program code means for receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client system, said request comprising one or a plurality of requirements for said virus-free certificate;
- computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free certificate is requested for the file and for downloading the file without associated virus-free certificate if no virus-free certificate is requested for the file; and
- computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the
 associated virus-free certificate, said virus-free certificate comprising a file
 signature for certifying that the file is declared virus-free by a virus-free
 certificate authority.
- 38. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the computer readable program code means for receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client system, further comprises:
- computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request; and
- computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the associated virus-free certificate if a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request.

39. (canceled)

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- 40. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the computer readable program code means for receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client system, further comprises:
- computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request; and,
- computer readable program code means for sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file if no virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request.
- 41. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein computer readable program code means for sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file further comprises:
- computer readable program code means for receiving a reply from the client system indicating whether an available virus-free certificate is accepted or not;
- computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the accepted virus-free certificate if an available virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system;
- computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request if no virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system; and
- computer readable program code means for requesting to this virus-free certificate
 authority proxy a virus-free certificate for the file if a virus-free certificate
 authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request.
- 42. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the one or plurality of virus-free certificate requirements comprise a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that must have been executed on the file to download.

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- 43. (previously presented) A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must belong.
- 44. (previously presented) The computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
- a virus-free certificate type; and
- a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a
 virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.